

**OPINION 2033** (Case 3156)***Chiton lepidus* Reuss, 1860 (currently *Lepidochitona lepidus*; Mollusca, Polyplacophora): specific name conserved**

**Abstract.** The Commission has ruled that the specific name of *Chiton lepidus* Reuss, 1860, for a chiton (currently *Lepidochitona lepidus*, family ISCHNOCHITONIDAE, subfamily LEPIDochITONINAE) from the Middle Miocene of Europe, is conserved. The specific name was threatened by a senior primary homonym *Chiton lepidus* Gould, 1859 (family ISCHNOCHITONIDAE, subfamily ISCHNOCHITONINAE), the name used for a Recent species from the Indo-Pacific.

**Keywords.** Nomenclature; taxonomy; *Lepidochitona lepidus*; ISCHNOCHITONIDAE; ISCHNOCHITONINAE; LEPIDochITONINAE; chitons; Miocene; Europe; Indo-Pacific.

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**Ruling**

- (1) Under the plenary power it is ruled that the specific name *lepidus* Reuss, 1860, as published in the binomen *Chiton lepidus*, is not invalid by reason of being a junior primary homonym of *Chiton lepidus* Gould, 1859.
- (2) The name *lepidus* Reuss, 1860, as published in the binomen *Chiton lepidus* (not invalid by the ruling in (1) above), is hereby placed on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology.

**History of Case 3156**

An application to conserve the specific name of *Chiton lepidus* Reuss, 1860 (currently *Lepidochitona lepidus*, family ISCHNOCHITONIDAE, subfamily LEPIDochITONINAE) from the Middle Miocene of Europe was received from Enrico Schwabe (*Münchhausenstrasse 21, Munich, Germany*) on 7 April 2000. After correspondence the case was published in BZN 57: 207–209 (December 2000). Notice of the case was sent to appropriate journals. A comment opposing the application was published in BZN 58: 227 (September 2001) together with a reply from the author clarifying that the application had been submitted under Article 23.9.5.

**Decision of the Commission**

On 1 December 2002 the members of the Commission were invited to vote on the proposals published in BZN 57: 208. At the close of the voting period on 1 March 2003 the votes were as follows: 22 Commissioners voted FOR the proposals, 2 Commissioners (Bouchet and Calder) voted AGAINST, no vote was received from Mahnert. Ng was on leave of absence.

**Original reference**

The following is the original reference to the name placed on an Official List by the ruling given in the present Opinion:

*lepidus*, *Chiton*, Reuss, 1860, *Sitzungsberichte der Kaiserlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften in Wien*, 39(2): 259.